THE DEEP DWELLERS

Age-old stories of underworld beings interacting with humanity have parallels with modern-day reports of abducting aliens and mysterious Men in Black.

Part 3 of 3

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RE-INVENTION, PARANOIA AND DECEPTION 2. THE MASKS MAY CHANGE, BUT THE PLAY'S THE SAME

he final three decades of the 20th century have been filled with rumours: conspiracy theories about alien abductions, plots for world domination shared between aliens and secret government, Illuminati cabals and the like. Several interesting variations on age-old theories have permeated the field of ufology and conspiracy literature alike, and in many places the two have overlapped and in fact have completely blurred into one. These latter areas are of particular interest and significance to the study at hand.

One of the most commonly reported manifestations of "alien invaders" are the EBE (extraterrestrial biological entities) type, commonly called "greys". These beings are the variety most often reported in abduction accounts, and they are highly ectomorphic with scrawny, underdeveloped limbs and bodies, oversized heads and extraordinarily large black eyes (some abductees have reported these to be actually "reptilian" or "birdlike" eyes with slit pupils, the "blackness" only a protective artificial film, like sunglasses). They are from three to five feet in height, averaging around four feet tall.

Again, their very physiology gives away their origins, for large protruding eyes with large slit pupils and needing an artificial protective covering would be hard to equate with a race that has mastered, and perhaps been genetically prepared for, interplanetary or interstellar travel. Outer space is an extremely bright, radiation-filled environment. The type of eyes described are those of a creature that spends most of its time in the darkness, as they are designed for optimum light reception. The shaded coverings, for venturing out into the surface world, are really self-explanatory.

Similarly, their bodies, small and easily manoeuvrable through tight spaces, with small surface area and a minimum of body-weight, are ideal for an underground environment. Their method of locomotion, generally described as "shuffling", with "hips moving strangely" or "sideways", is another indication that they have developed in a relatively cramped place or even one where tunnels are commonplace. They are often described as smelling "musty", "like a snake" or "like rotten eggs".

This type of entity allegedly abducts unfortunate human beings and conducts medical or genetic testing on them, sometimes removing sperm and ova for use in "hybridisation experiments" or for purposes unknown. The abductions almost always take place under cover of darkness (doubly helpful to the molesters, since the "harmful" sun has set and people are drowsy or asleep).

The victim is taken into a UFO (usually disc-shaped or shaped like a child's spinning-top) for experimentation and also for a form of indoctrination consisting of intense three-dimensional audiovisual presentations. The primary message of these presentations seems to deal with a concern over human destruction of the Earth's biosphere and biodiversity (recall the recurrent "faerie" interest in the same thing—a steady supply of genetic materials). This becomes even more telling when it is recalled that the first underground atomic tests were concurrent with the resurgence of "witnessed activity" of UFOs on a previously unprecedented scale. Those tests may have rattled more than a few windows in the desert!

During the medical aspect of the abduction, local anaesthetics are seldom if ever used, and the victim is left with a type of post-traumatic stress syndrome which at first is marked by amnesia and mental distress or unease, sometimes followed by nightmares, self-imposed social isolation and eventually a total recall of the experience, either through

natural recovery of memory or through hypnotic regression therapy.

Other common themes emerge as well. The entities are described by their victims as "drone-like", "robotic", "clinical" and so forth, and are also described as "reptilian", "lizard-like" or as having reptilian, birdlike or amphibian-like skin texture.

In many instances, the abduction experience moves to a "cavern city", "cavern world" or "underground base". It is in these latter subterranean places that "hybrid beings"—having "alien", human or other animal characteristics—have been reported as being seen in development, along with cannibalism and the torture of human beings. One such site has been alleged by several researchers and "abductees" as being beneath Archuleta Mesa near Dulce, New Mexico. In these prolonged episodes, other beings enter the scene—such as "hybrid" children who are frail, pale and ectomorphic but generally human in appearance. Some abductees have even said that these children look "like fairies"!

Other entities are not so harmless, such as a tall "human" type

with an aristocratic "Aryan" look; these are generally referred to as "Nordics" in the UFO literature, and bear more than a slight resemblance to the "light elves" and Tuatha de Danaan of old. Are these the "fairy children", hybrids and "changelings", all grown up and hard at work?

Another type of entity is more sinister in both appearance and attitude, described as a "reptilian humanoid", "lizard man" or "reptoid" and ranging from five to eight or nine feet in height. These "reptoids" are usually characterised as being "in charge" of the other types, but upon occasion are said to

report to taller, even stranger entities that resemble skeletally thin, giant "greys" or even giant "mantids". Normal surface humans, paramilitary in nature or appearance, are also seen in these underground areas.

Another interesting factor is that all of the entities described go to great lengths to convince their captives that they have come from "far away", from distant stars, planets and "vibrational frequencies" or dimensions. They have come all this distance because they are "worried about humanity", but they put out their heartfelt propaganda as they

stick a huge needle in a woman's abdomen or up someone's nose without even a local anaesthetic.

Yet the biology of all the different types or castes of abductors, as horrific as it might appear to superstitious human eyes, is essentially that of animal forms which are natural to the Earth: mammalian and reptilian. Obviously, it is very important to these beings that such a logical connection not be made. If there is even a shred of truth to UFO abduction accounts, then it is more than apparent that the abductors want their victims and humanity at large to believe that they are from "somewhere else". While humanity looks continually upward at enigmas in the sky, what is transpiring beneath our very feet?

Additional folklore and literature parallels are apparent in the accounts described. The "greys" are identical to the order-following, human-abducting, drone-like Galatur and Ushabtiu of the Sumerian and Egyptian underworld mythologies. In Shetland

Island folklore, "little men" who abducted people were sometimes referred to as "grey neighbours", and the "greys" also bear a strong resemblance in head and torso structure to the cryptid *El Chupacabras*. The methodical imps and Djinn that served Satan and Shaitan come to mind as well, and of course Richard Shaver's "dero" are similar, especially in their use of high technology. The Nordics, sometimes seemingly the "enemies" of the grey and reptoid types, are often reported as working side by side with them in the underground facilities or labs, which recalls the fact that the Nagas were said to look "almost human" and reminds us of the mercurial dispositions of the aristocratic or Aryan faeries, the light elves/Tuatha de Danaan.

Additionally, the apocryphal hybrid offspring of the Nephilim and humans were described in the Book of Lamech and the Slavonic Book of Enoch as having an extremely Nordic or Aryan appearance, and were also said to have a reptilian patch of skin ("badge of priesthood") on their chests or elsewhere.

In Celtic Welsh myth, the lord of the underworld of Annwn had

a "magical cauldron" that produced an endless supply of warriors for him. Was this an "Earth mother", "primal womb" archetype, or was it instead synonymous with producing offspring through gene-splicing, the "cauldron" actually a test tube?

The reptoids or lizard men are familiar as Nagas, Utukku, Ammut, "dragon kings", goblins, trolls and so on. They are also often described as smelling like rotten eggs or like sulphur.

Both the reptilians and the greys have in recent years passed from the UFO research realm into "conspiracy" literature, where

> they are said to be involved in "controlling the Earth" or are in the process of "taking over".

> Several authors have published the theory that the reptilians are masters of illusion and holographic projection or are physical shape-shifters who are replacing world leaders, government officials and public figures as an insidious "fifth column". Here again are the changelings of European folklore, the hologram-utilising dero and the "serpent men", precisely as described by the fiction writer Robert E. Howard in his pulp-fiction tales of King Kull.

This is by no means a "new idea", revelation or suspicion, but is as ancient as the concept of an underworld itself.

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3. MEN IN BLACK

This treatise would not be complete without an examination of another mysterious player from the depths: "Men in Black", or "MIB". These cool cats figure prominently in both UFO and conspiracy literature. Thanks to the excellent work of researchers and writers John Keel and the late Jim Keith as well as the work of a host of others, many small and seemingly inconsequential facts have been obtained from witnesses and preserved.

Men in Black seem to fall into two categories: the standard men in black, who may be actual agents of secret government or military investigation/disinformation groups; and the MIB, who Keel indicates are somehow in league with or originating from the unseen forces behind the various cryptid or creature sightings as well as the UFO phenomenon. It is the latter category, the MIB, that has bearing here.

These "mystery men" are usually described as of varying height and build, but more often than not they are on the thin side. They generally wear dark or black businesslike clothing, dark hats and sunglasses (again, the eye protection from the sun!). They are either olive-skinned and vaguely Oriental or Asiatic, or they are

Nordic or Scandinavian in complexion, hair colour and physique. From the basic template of these two forms, strange variations have been reported: total hairlessness (not even having eyebrows or eyelashes); overly large, protruding eyes (a non-mammalian trait, for the most part, or perhaps due to an unaccustomed lack of atmospheric pressure); wheezing and other trouble breathing, as if unused to earthly (or surface?) air pressure (aeroembolism); unnatural joint movement and locomotion; "reptilian" or "froglike" cast of skin texture and facial features; webbed fingers; sulphurous or "metallic" odour; and a

host of additional oddities of physical configuration.

Add to all of this the fact that these MIBs are often ignorant or in amazement of the most ordinary surface-world activities—trying to drink gelatin, refusing food and taking a pill instead, stealing or asking for small common objects (like writing pens) as apparently prized souvenirs—and they become even less human through their behaviour.

They often exhibit a strong interest in the sexuality or sexual habits of those they confront; and the longer they remain on the

surface, the more erratic, disoriented, lethargic or "drunk" they seem to become (a side effect of rapid depressurisation, or aeroembolism).

They have sometimes identified themselves to their unwilling visitants with cryptic statements, e.g., claiming to be citizens of the "Nation of the Third Eye"—an occult or secret society reference still widely utilised in symbology and ritual today by some

'brotherhoods" of "enlightened" human beings, but which harks back to the "third eye" of the Nagas or the "skull pearl" of the Chinese dragons. Any relationship that this Nation of the Third Eye might have to modernday secret societies is debatable, but the parallel exists.

Another clue lies in the fact that they arrive at their victims' doorsteps in shiny black cars that are in pristine condition, i.e., "like new". The puzzling thing is that these vehicles are almost always decades out of date and sometimes seem to be composites of several different makes of cars (still out of date). To remain unrav-

aged by the passage of time—oxidation, dry rot of tyres and so forth—they would have to be warehoused and maintained in an environment of constant temperature and low humidity, away from weather, sun and extreme changes in temperature. Add to this the manner in which both the cars and the men suddenly and inexplicably vanish, as if swallowed up by the Earth...but by now the premise is obvious. Some caverns are damp, but many others are exceedingly dry and remain constant in temperature, year round, after a certain depth.

About the Author:

Wm Michael Mott is the Creative Director for a high-performance US software company. He is also a freelance artist and writer of both fiction and non-fiction. He has worked as an artist/designer for Fortune 500 companies and for a variety of book and magazine publishers. His artwork has appeared in publications such as Computer Graphics World Magazine, Computer Artist, IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications, Dragon Magazine, UFO Magazine and others. He's created awardwinning artwork and graphic design for mass-market book covers, posters, brochures, packaging, CD-ROM covers and art collections as well as for digital/web-based media. Mott's artwork has been featured in the exhibition In Dreams Awake: Art of Fantasy at the Olympia and York Gallery in 1988, at the 1987 World Fantasy Con and in other

Mott's satirical fantasy novels, *Pulsifer: A Fable* and *Land of Ice, A Velvet Knife*, are available from the author in a deluxe version as *The Pulsifer Saga*, featuring full-colour illustrations. *The Pulsifer Saga* is now available in HTML format on CD-ROM from Mottimorphic Publishing Co.,

email mottimorph@earthlink.net. The first of a series of illustrated short stories appeared in September 2000 as a chapbook from Undaunted Press (www.undauntedpress.com) and can be found at the website www.blindside.net.smallpress/read/Exclusives/TempleOf TheSalamander/. Also see the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists website, www.asfa-art.org/Members/MikeMott/index.html.

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Mott has been researching Fortean and paranormal topics for over 20 years and has only recently written the graphically rich book and CD-ROM, Caverns, Cauldrons, and Concealed Creatures, available from www.hiddenmysteries.com/redir/index111.html. Wm Michael Mott can be contacted by email at mottimorph@earthlink.net, or you can visit his website at http://mpi.mpi-softtech.com/~mott, where much of his original artwork is featured.

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History and folklore both have parallels. Folklore is filled with "dark men", "men dressed in black" and "grim reapers", often identified in previous centuries as sorcerers, demons, warlocks or other "servants of the Devil"—and, of course, the odour of sulphur and brimstone was a trademark of his from way back.

During the plague years of the Middle Ages, entities resembling both MIB and the now-standard grey aliens were often seen in areas that would shortly thereafter be stricken with an outbreak of

the dreaded disease. On the eve of major events throughout history, people have repeatedly seen or been harassed by such beings.

As Keel points out in *Disneyland of the Gods* and his other excellent books, Julius Caesar, Napoleon and even Malcolm X all reported encounters with this variety of terrifying being. Hitler also was alleged to have had his share of midnight visits from a mysterious "Tibetan", and through him to have met "the New Man"—a sort of super-Aryan who he believed came from the interior of the Earth, and of whom he was most afraid

How much fear, confusion and human suffering can be traced to uncanny visits from these "robotic yet human" *agents provoca-teurs*? Where are they from, who do they work for, and what is their long-term agenda? Could it be that their goal is to generate confusion and divisions, to keep humanity "looking upwards" for an invasion that will never come? The "invaders" may already be here, and may have been here all along. The evidence is in the folklore, religions, myths, literature and archetypes of humankind. Perhaps they're not "extraterrestrial" but "intraterrestrial", and perhaps there's a vast, unknown world beneath our feet, stretching

down through secret, twisting tunnels and deep caverns to the Mohorovicic layer, which itself is an anomalous cavern region deep beneath the upper crust.

What if there is an unknown world beneath our feet—a world that is dependent upon the biodiversity and genetic wealth on the Earth's surface; a world that has been exploiting that wealth for thousands or millions of years, victimising the ignorant savages who roam the face of the sunlit world? Or could all of the evi-

dence be circumstantial and without merit, simply a misinterpreted conglomeration of coincidence and misidentified animals, natural phenomena and archetypes from the human collective unconsciousness? The critic could toss in an endless supply of overactive imaginations down through the millennia, but the evidence—dating back as it does for thousands of years of human traditions and continuing right up through the present day—says otherwise.

The reptilian, vampiric, robotic and demonic are all characteristics which have been attributed to underworld

beings down through the ages. They have haunted mankind's imagination and nightmares since our most remote time. These "archetypal" images speak to us of supernatural terrors and mysteries; but what if, instead, these beings are natural and technologically advanced to a degree that only until recently has been beyond our comprehension and therefore considered "magical" or impossible in their level of sophistication? If the latter is the case, then we would do well as a species to become more aware not only of our own planet but also of our mythic and folkloric heritage, for it speaks not of a symbiosis but of a nearly invisible "parasite" dwelling in the depths.

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